

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Corrections Services Observes Probation, Parole and
Community Supervision Week**
Louisiana Officers Track More than 60,000 offenders

(Baton Rouge) During the week of July 17th through the 23rd, 2005, the Louisiana Department of Corrections joins other state and law enforcement agencies across the country in recognition of Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week.

Since 1841, the practice of probation and parole has played a vital role in our justice system. The 540 probation and parole officers and 300 support personnel in Louisiana are a critical part of the public safety system.

With more than 60,000 offenders under supervision in Louisiana, officer caseloads are often large and the atmosphere in which these dedicated professionals work is becoming more violent. Their duties are also becoming increasingly complex, as "supervision" has now come to mean much more than the obvious. Officers are mentors and counselors. They help secure needed services for offenders such as drug or mental health treatment. They help with finding employment so that offenders can support themselves and their families. They make unannounced visits to the offender's home or workplace to ensure terms of supervision are being met. The work officers do largely goes unnoticed, yet the work of probation and parole officers is one of the most important jobs in public safety.

There are twenty-two (22) Probation and Parole District offices throughout the state. To learn more about how these law enforcement officers support public safety initiatives in your community, please visit our website at www.doc.louisiana.gov or call your local Probation and Parole District Office.

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